4841 Preston Park Drive Kingsport, TN 37664 September 3, 2007

Public Service Commission of South Carolina 101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100 Columbia, SC 29210

2007-229-E

SEP 0 6 2007

Posted:

Dept: SA

Date:

Dear Sirs:

Subject: Proposed Rate Increase - South Carolina Electric and Gas (SCANA)

My wife and I recently completed construction of a new home in Aiken, SC at 132. White Cedar Way, Woodside Plantation. We currently live in Kingsport, TN, but are planning to retire to Aiken in a few years. When we arranged for electric service, we were very surprised to learn that the per kilowatt hour electric rates being charged by SCANA were twice as much as our electricity rates in Kingsport, TN, where we are serviced by Kingsport Power Company, a unit of American Electric Power.

The base electric rates currently being charged by SCANA are approx. 9 cents per kilowatt hour, while the American Electric Power Company base rates are approximately 4.7 cents per kilowatt hour. American Electric Power is a public company, just like SCANA, yet they earn a satisfactory return on their investment at half the rates. How can this be? Are they that much more efficient in their operations?

It is my understanding that SCANA has requested approval from the PSC for a 6.75% overall rate increase. This rate increase would make SCANA's electric rates, already some of the highest in the nation, even higher. I am also a shareholder of SCANA common stock, and as a shareholder and a customer, I expect the company to be an efficient operator and provider of electric service. If they cannot earn a satisfactory return at rates that are 2X their competitors and some of the highest in the nation already, then they need to work on becoming more efficient, not in continuing to ask for rate increases. I urge the PSC to deny this rate increase request.

Having the highest electric rates in the nation will not help South Carolina's economy, nor will it encourage people like us to retire to such a high cost of living area.

Very truly yours,

Richard L. Johnson

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